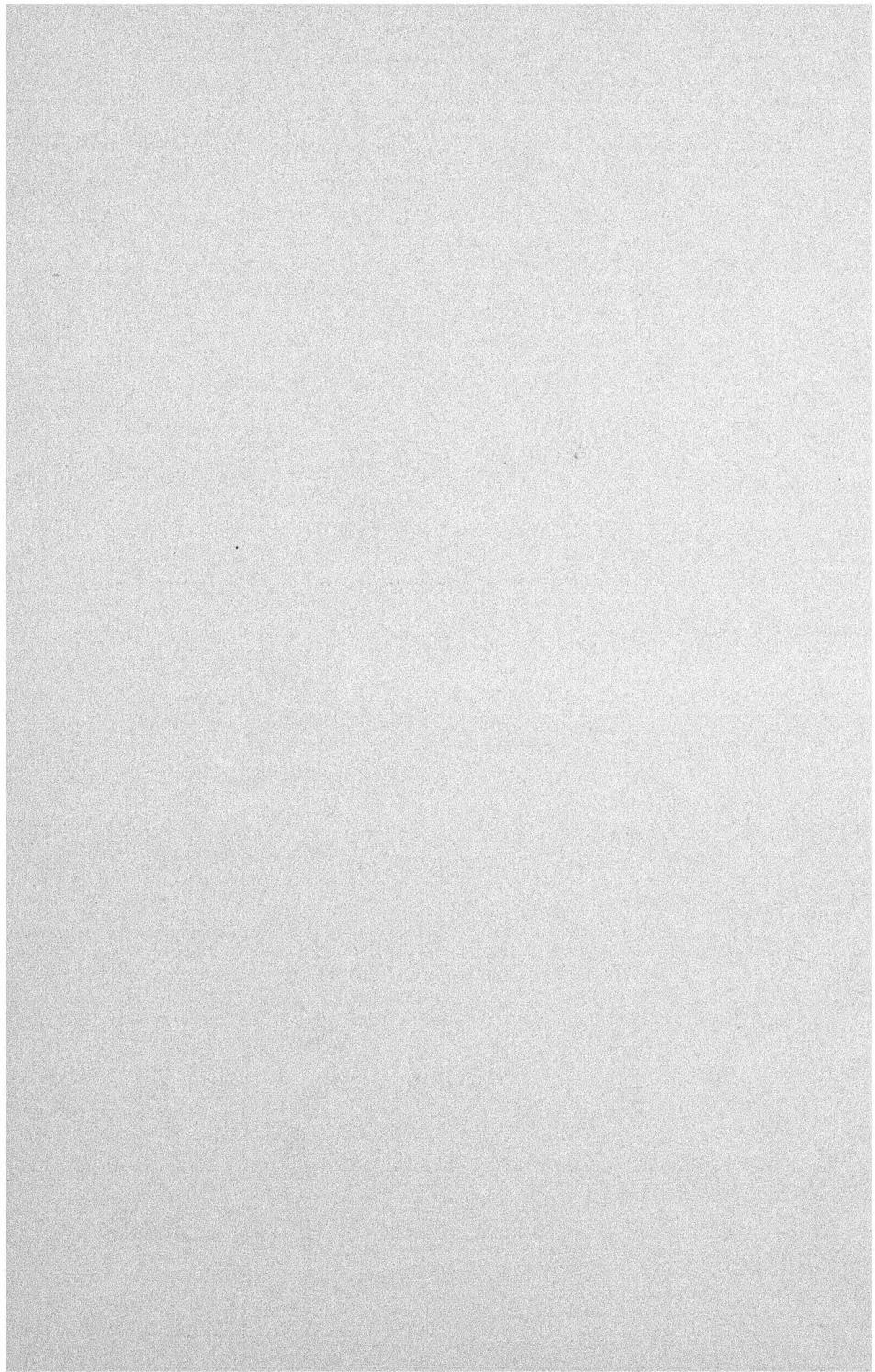


**CALGARY BOARD OF TRADE**

**THE ADVANTAGES  
OF ALBERTA**

**1892**



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## THE ADVANTAGES OF ALBERTA.

STATEMENT BY THE CALGARY BOARD OF TRADE.

THE numerous daily enquiries from all parts of the world addressed to the Mayor, the President of the Board of Trade, the Postmaster, and other citizens of Calgary, asking for information as to the suitability of Alberta as a field for settlement, entailed such extra work on the Secretary of the Board of Trade that the Board appointed a Special Committee to draft a letter answering as many questions as are generally asked by correspondents, and to have the same printed and mailed in reply to those asking for information. Any further information not contained in this letter will be gladly furnished you by addressing the undersigned.

1. Alberta is situated at the base of the Rocky Mountains, and is bounded on the north by the District of Athabasca, on the south by the State of Montana, on the west by the Province of British Columbia, and on the east by the District of Assiniboia, and embraces the territory now known throughout the world as the "chinook belt."

2. Our winters, as a general rule, are mild and short in duration, the severe season being usually during the months of January and February. This year, however, we have had as yet no severe weather, the thermometer seldom sinking more than 10 or 12 degrees below freezing point.

3. The C. P. R. give liberal rates for incoming settlers.

4. Improved farm lands in the neighbourhood of church and school may be purchased at from 5 dols. to 15 dols. per acre.

5. Cattle and horses live and thrive throughout the entire year without any food or shelter other than what nature provides for them.

6. We have invariably a very dry autumn and winter, not having any rainfall from about September 1st to April 1st.

7. The dry fall and winter are of great benefit, as they permit the natural grass to ripen, mature, and cure and remain sweet and nutritious throughout the winter. Here lies the great difference between our country and the Eastern Provinces and States, or the Province of British Columbia, where, owing to the heavy rainfall, the grasses decompose and animals are unable to procure food; and, moreover, it is well known that animals are enabled to retain their fat and withstand cold better where the climate is clear and dry as with us.

8. The prudent settler will do well to provide prairie hay and shelter for domestic and dairy cattle for from about six to eight weeks during the winter, as the natural grasses near home will get well eaten down, and domestic cattle, unlike breeding stock, cannot be permitted to seek food and shelter away from home.

74.11.19/17



9. Poor old eastern horses, which, after doing a hard summer's work on the construction of our local railways, have been turned out in December to "rustle" for themselves, have been taken up in May as fat as beef steers.

10. Yes, it is true that thousands of beef steers are driven in from the ranches in the months of January, February, and March, and shipped to the coast, either alive or as dressed beef; and it is equally true that the average weight of a dressed three to four year old steer is from 850 lbs. to 1,000 lbs.

11. This is an exceptionally good country for poultry. The dry fall and spring appear to agree splendidly with the birds, and eggs are sold as cheap as 25 cents per dozen, and at the time of writing are worth 60 cents.

12. Domestic cows sell for about 40 dols.; heifers, three years, for about 30 dols.; heifers, two years, for about 20 dols.; yearlings for about 13 dols. Good general purpose mares weighing about 1,400 lbs. are worth about 200 dols. each. Bronchos weighing about 800 or 900 lbs. are worth from 40 dols. to 60 dols. per head. Good-sized bronchos, weighing 1,200 lbs., can be bought from 125 dols. to 150 dols. each.

\* 13. By all means bring whatever breeding stock you may have with you, and all your agricultural implements; but do not buy any new machinery in Eastern Canada, as you can do far better by bringing live stock, and leaving the agricultural implements to be procured here.

14. Wheat will average 30 bushels per acre; oats, 50 bushels per acre; barley, 40 bushels per acre. Potatoes, turnips, and indeed all kinds of vegetables, yield a sure and abundant crop.

15. You can **BUY** unimproved land in any part of Alberta at from 2 dols. 50 cents to 5 dols. per acre. The C. P. R. sell on deferred payment plan. You can get a **FREE** homestead of 160 acres on payment of the sum of 10 dols., and each of your sons over 18 years old may take up his own homestead on the same terms.

16. The greater part of the land within a radius of 10 miles from Calgary has already been taken up, but there are still some desirable homesteads open for entry, and many desirable locations for sale at reasonable prices.

17. We should strongly advise the incoming settler who has the capital at his disposal to buy a farm as near as possible to the town of Calgary, as land is sure to increase in value in the vicinity of the capital.

18. Now that the railroads are completed from Calgary to Edmonton in the north, and from Calgary to Macleod in the south, you can get first-class land close to a railway station by going north or south from Calgary, but the man who has a few thousand dollars will do well to secure land in the vicinity of Calgary.

19. Seeding commences about the middle of March, and as a rule the harvest begins about the middle of August.



20. There has never been a general summer frost in Alberta. Occasionally small patches have been slightly touched, but never enough to damage either the yield or quality of the grain.

21. The best time to come is in the early spring, but you will be made welcome at any time.

22. Don't be afraid when coming to Alberta you are about to bury yourself in a wilderness. We have churches of all denominations, and good schools everywhere, in Alberta; railroads north, south, east, and west. Our social life must be seen to be appreciated.

23. In our daily life we are in no way behind the old cities of the east. There are good roads throughout the district, and you have no taxes to pay (outside the towns), except a small school tax, half of which is paid by the Dominion Government.

24. Building material may be procured, either at Calgary or wherever you decide to settle, from any of the numerous sawmills at reasonable prices. Common lumber costs about 16 dols. per 1,000, and dressed and matched flooring and siding are worth from 20 to 25 dols. Cedar shingles cost 3 dols. per 1,000.

Fuel is plentiful throughout the entire district. Wood is worth in Calgary 4.00 dols. per cord, and coal 7.50 dols. delivered. In the farming districts fuel is easily obtainable from the numerous coal beds which are being daily opened up and worked by farmers, many of whom make money during the winter months by mining coal and taking it to the towns for sale.

25. The cost of living at present is a little in excess of the eastern towns, but the building of a grist mill which will be proceeded with this spring will help to reduce the price of flour. Beef costs 8 to 10 cents per lb.; carcases, 6 to 7 cents per lb.; potatoes, 60 cents per bushel; pork, 10 cents per lb.; mutton, 10 to 12½ cents per lb.; butter, 25 to 35 cents per lb.

26. Yes, there is a good market opening up towards the west, in the mining towns which are steadily growing in the mountains and the shipping ports on the Pacific Coast, which are now drawing their supplies of meat and breadstuffs from Alberta.

27. Water is to be found in abundance all through the District of Alberta, the perpetual snows of the Rockies furnishing an unfailing supply to the numerous mountain streams, and living springs are to be found almost anywhere.

28. There is always work for the man who is not afraid to work on farms during the summer, as well as in the mines and tie camps in the mountains.

29. Farm labourers can earn in summer 20 to 25 dols. per month, and in winter 15 to 20 dols., in each case with board. Sawmill and bushmen earn 20 to 26 dols. per month with board. The rates of wages for skilled labour are as follows:—Masons and bricklayers, 4.00 to 5.00 dols. per day; carpenters, 2.00 to 3.00 dols.; labourers, 1.50 to 2.00 dols. per

day; general house servants, 12 to 15 dols. per month. Alberta offers you a pleasant climate, a happy home, and a prosperous career. Come and see for yourself.

30. As to passenger and freight rates, if the R. R. agent at your point is unable to furnish you with full information, write to the General Passenger Agent of the C. P. R. at Winnipeg or Montreal.

31. While industrious men of all trades and occupations have every chance of succeeding, the men most likely to do well are practical farmers, men arriving here with one or more car loads of live stock, horses, cows, sheep, and pigs. Alberta wants producers. Dairy farmers cannot but do well in Alberta.

32. There is no demand for educated labour, or for labourers not accustomed to agriculture.

33. There are big openings for the investment of capital, and money can be readily loaned at from 8 to 10 per cent. on good security.

34. Horse, cattle, and sheep ranching pay well, and the country is peculiarly adapted to the breeding and growth of those animals.

35. Buy your ticket direct to Calgary—being situated in the centre of Alberta, you will find it a most convenient point to explore from.

36. Calgary has a population of some 4,000 inhabitants, is a live town with large wholesale and retail firms, banking institutions, &c. Two daily newspapers are published here—*The Herald* and *The Tribune*.

37. Alberta is the most progressive colony under the British flag. The great mineral and agricultural wealth of the country assures for it a great future. Calgary is the great distributing point.

For further information address—A. Lucas, Mayor of Calgary; A. Rowe, Dominion Land Agent; P. J. Nolan, Secretary Board of Trade; Wm. Pearce, Superintendent of Mines; J. G. Fitzgerald, Agent for sale of C. P. R. Lands.

P. J. NOLAN,

Secretary of the Board of Trade.

CALGARY, ALBERTA,

February 1st, 1892.



*Duplicate*

**TO OUR CANADIAN FRIENDS:** Do not lose or destroy this Pamphlet. If you are not interested in its contents send it by hand or mail it to some one who will be interested. Help us to increase the circulation of our Pamphlets by mailing them to your friends likely to emigrate. One cent will pay the postage to any place in Canada or U.S. Two cents will pay the postage to any place in Great Britain or Ireland if you send them by book and open at the ends. Address them plainly and correctly and put a string around them to prevent them from getting lost in the mails. We will be glad to send you extra Pamphlets for mailing if you call on us or any of our agents or if you write us or any of them a postal card. Do all you can at once to help us get these Pamphlets into the right hands at the earliest moment possible. They cost money and we don't want to waste one of them.

**TO OUR FRIENDS IN GREAT BRITAIN:** As to copies of this Pamphlet which will be distributed in England, and in Scotland through the kindness of the high commissioner and the agents of the Dominion Government on the other side of the Atlantic: We would remind the reader in the motherland that we are all *BROTHERS UNDER ONE ROOF*. We ask our fellow British subjects to help us in our endeavours to be loyal to British institutions and to "keep Canada for the Canadians." Why should our brother Englishmen, Irishmen and even emigrate to the United States? Why should they desert "the old flag"? Why not come to Algoma, our transit country? Help us get this pamphlet into circulation all over Great Britain and Ireland. **One half  
cent will pay the postage by book post from any place in to any place in the United Kingdom.** Ex. Com.

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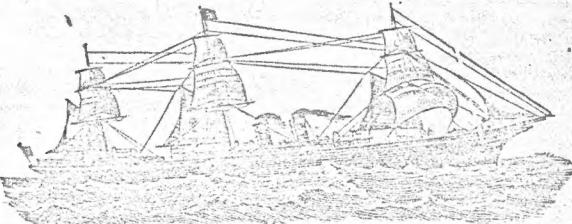
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"The best advertisement you can have to induce people to come from abroad, is a happy, prosperous and contented people already in the country. Get letters and statements from the settlers showing that they are contented and cheerful, that they have not grievances and that they advise the millions of landless folks abroad to come and join them; and these statements giving in their own simple language the story of their trials and of their success, will do more good than hundreds of statements showing that 100,000 farmers will produce 40 millions of bushels of wheat in a year. They will do more for you, because no sensible man will believe these marvellous stories you tell while all sensible men will be inclined to believe the statements made by the actual settlers themselves." Extract from speech of Hon. Edward Blake, ex-Minister of Justice of Canada and Member of the Imperial Parliament for South Longford, Ireland, at Owen Sound, Ontario, June

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1892.

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For further information and to secure Berths apply to

R. W. ROBERTS,  
MANAGER,  
21, WATER STREET,  
LIVERPOOL.



